

**OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES****Administrative Requirements Manual****EFFECTIVE:** 7/1/02**AUTHORIZATION:****PAGE** 1 of 2**A/R TITLE:** Temporary Waiver of EMT-Basic Certification Requirements for Ambulance Services: EMT-Trained Candidates Not Certified as EMTs in Any State**SUPERSEDES:** 12/89**PURPOSE:**

To define requirements and conditions under which the Department, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 111C, §§9 and 22 and 105 CMR 170.275(C), may grant an ambulance service a temporary waiver of the emergency medical technician (EMT) certification requirements for EMT-Basics (EMT-B), to enable services to hire and put to work, in a limited role, a specifically named individual who has completed EMT-B training requirements, but is not certified in any state or territory of the United States.

EXPLANATION:

The Department has exercised its authority under M.G.L. c. 111C, §§9 and 22 and 105 CMR 170.275(C) to address the shortage of employable EMTs certified by the Department, in order to meet the public health and safety need for sufficient levels of ambulance service throughout the Commonwealth.

This administrative requirement applies only to waivers of 105 CMR 170.285 for hiring and enabling to work in Massachusetts a specifically named EMT-B-trained individual who is not certified as an EMT in any state. This includes an individual who has previously been certified as an EMT in Massachusetts or another state, but whose certification has expired. During the period of the ambulance service's waiver, the EMT-B candidate must meet all the requirements necessary to become a Massachusetts certified EMT-B, pursuant to 105 CMR 170.910.

The Department has determined that having the EMT-B training the Department has approved and the employment by an ambulance service licensed by the Department, together with the terms of this administrative requirement, will ensure the EMT-B candidate is competent to function in a limited role, and will receive sufficient oversight and evaluation to provide, for a temporary period, a necessary service in a manner that protects the public health.

[See A/R 5-202 for requirements for an ambulance service to receive a temporary waiver of EMT certification requirements at all levels of care for a specifically named person who is certified as an EMT in another state.]

REQUIREMENTS:

- The ambulance service seeking the waiver must submit an application. The service shall attest to the fact that it accepts full responsibility for orienting and overseeing/monitoring/evaluating the specifically named EMT-B candidate's work for the duration of the waiver period.
- The specifically named individual the service is hiring must:
 - a) Have completed the Department-approved EMT training course requirements;
 - b) Have submitted to the Department a complete and accurate application for the EMT certification examination, and payment of the certification fee;
 - c) Have a current training card in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (American Heart Association or National Safety Council "Healthcare Provider," or American Red Cross "Professional Rescuer");
 - d) Possess a valid driver's license.



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SUPERSEDES: 12/89

- An individual who was previously certified in Massachusetts as an EMT, but whose certification expired within the past year must:
 - a) Have applied for a reinstatement of EMT certification examination; and
 - b) Have completed a refresher course within the past year.
- Waivers will not be issued when the applicant ambulance service has a history of compliance problems or has outstanding compliance issues.
- A waiver will not be issued to the ambulance service for an individual who has failed any portion of the EMT examination and a waiver shall be automatically terminated upon failure of any portion of the examination.

CONDITIONS OF WAIVER:

- A waiver is issued to the ambulance service to allow the specifically named individual who is not a certified EMT to function as the driver of the ambulance vehicle during patient transport.
- The individual who is not an EMT may not be assigned sole responsibility for patient care on an ambulance. A certified EMT must be in the patient compartment, attending to the patient at all times during transport.
- The ambulance service's temporary waiver is valid for no longer than ninety (90) days.
- Temporary waivers of EMT certification are not renewable or transferable.